

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Objections

Claims 4-19 objected to under 37 CFR 1.75(c) as being in improper form because a multiple dependent claim cannot depend from another multiple dependent claim. See MPEP § 608.01(n). Accordingly, the claims 4-19 have not been further treated on the merits.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

Claims 1-21 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Claim 1, 'which can be detached' refers to what? What can be detached the bearing 18? How?

Claim 20, 'said bearings' lack antecedence as well as 'said loosened position' (claim 21).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 1-3, 20,21 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Bazeley-1672867 in view of Smith-2004/0018042.

Bazeley discloses a cable closure of multiple parts (A,B)that are removably connected through a pivot bearing, wherein parts can be detached based on angular position. Bazely does not disclose additional parts that are movable about a second axis. However, Smith teaches a cable closure having two ends pivotal about a longitudinal axis. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at time invention was made to provide the ends of Bazeley with separate pivotal end pieces, as taught by Smith, in order to accommodate for twisting and turning of cable giving more flexibility and preventing damage to cable.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Eileen P. Morgan whose telephone number is 571.272.4488. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday, 7am-3:30pm EST.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Joseph Hail can be reached on 571.272.4485. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

EPM
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/Eileen P Morgan/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 3723